

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with the applicant's representative, Joseph M. Rolnicki (Reg. No. 32,653), on March 23, 2011.

The application has been amended as follows:

In page 1 of the specification after the application title, insert the following:

-- Field of the Invention

The present invention pertains to an illuminated laser probe that is primarily designed for ophthalmic surgery procedures where the probe provides both illumination light to a surgical site and laser light to the surgical site.

Summary of the Invention

The illuminated laser probe of the invention is primarily designed for ophthalmic surgery procedures. The probe provides both illumination light to a surgical site and laser light to the surgical site.

The probe has an elongate manually manipulatable handle. A tubular tip is secured to the handle. The tip projects from the handle to a distal end of the tip.

A length of illumination optic fiber extends through the handle and the tip. The length of illumination optic fiber has opposite proximal and distal ends and the fiber

distal end is positioned adjacent the tip distal end. The illumination optic fiber is secured stationary relative to the tip.

A length of laser optic fiber also extends through the handle and the tip. The length of laser optic fiber has opposite proximal and distal ends and the laser optic fiber distal end is positioned adjacent the tip distal end and the illumination optic fiber distal end.

A mechanism is provided on the handle at a position where the mechanism can easily be manipulated by a finger of a surgeon's hand holding the handle. The mechanism is operatively connected to the laser optic fiber to move the laser optic fiber through the handle and the tip between a retracted position of the laser optic fiber where the laser optic fiber distal end is positioned adjacent the tip distal end and the illumination optic fiber distal end, and an extended position of the laser optic fiber where the laser optic fiber distal end is extended from the tip distal end and the illumination optic fiber distal end.

A portion of the laser optic fiber adjacent the laser optic fiber distal end has a curved configuration.

A curved sleeve is mounted on the laser optic fiber distal end portion. The curved sleeve holds the laser optic fiber distal end portion in the curved configuration. --

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ahmed M. Farah whose telephone number is (571) 272-

4765. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon, Tue, Thur and Fri between 9:30 AM 7:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Johnson Henry can be reached on (571) 272-4768. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Ahmed M Farah/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3769

March 23, 2011.